

## **AMENDMENT(S) TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 15 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view of principal portions of conventional optical information recording media 1 and a graph of the RF signals and land pre-pit signals thereof; Fig. 16 is a cross-sectional view along line XVI-XVI in Fig. 15; Fig. 17 is a cross-sectional view along line XVII-XVII in Fig. 15; and Fig. 18 is a cross-sectional view along line XVIII-XVIII in Fig. 15.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 15 mainly depicts the pregrooves 6, lands 7, land pre-pits 8, and recorded pit 10, omitting the light reflecting layer [[5]] 4 and protective layer 5 of the optical information recording media 1.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 1 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view showing in enlargement the optical information recording media 20 of a first aspect of this invention (first invention), and in particular a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 21 and a portion of a circular spot 9S of laser light 9 irradiating same;

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of a portion of a land pre-pit 21 of same;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view illustrating the state of irradiation with laser light 9 (circular spot 9S) of a land pre-pit 21 of same;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view showing another example of a land pre-pit of same (land pre-pit 30);

Fig. 5 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view showing still another example of a land pre-pit of same (land pre-pit 31);

Fig. 6 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view showing in showing in enlargement the optical information recording media 40 of a second aspect of this invention (second invention), and in

particular a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 21 and a portion of a circular spot 9S of laser light 9 irradiating same;

Fig. 7 is an enlarged plane plan view for a case in which a recorded pit 10 overlaps with a portion of a conventional meandering land pre-pit 8;

Fig. 8 is an enlarged plane plan view for a case in which a recorded pit 10 overlaps with a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 21 of this invention (second invention);

Fig. 9 is an enlarged plane view showing in enlargement the optical information recording media 50 of a third aspect of this invention (third invention), and in particular a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 21 and a portion of a circular spot 9S of laser light 9 irradiating same;

Fig. 10 is an enlarged plane view of a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 8 in the optical information recording media of a fourth aspect of this invention (fourth invention);

Fig. 11 is a graph showing the relation of AR to  $R_{out}$  and  $R_{in}$  in same;

Fig. 12 is a graph showing the numerical range of RF signal fluctuations and the range over which AR is 15% or higher in same, with  $R_{out}$  on the horizontal axis and  $R_{in}$  on the vertical axis;

Fig. 13 is a graph showing the numerical range of RF signal fluctuations and the range over which AR is 18% or higher in same, with  $R_{out}$  on the horizontal axis and  $R_{in}$  on the vertical axis;

Fig. 14 is a graph showing the numerical range of RF signal fluctuations and the range over which AR is 18% or higher in same, with  $R_{out}$  on the horizontal axis and  $R_{in}$  on the vertical axis;

Fig. 15 is a partial enlarged plane plan view of conventional optical information recording media, and a graph of RF signals and land pre-pit signals thereof;

Fig. 16 is a cross-sectional view along line XVI-XVI in Fig. 15;

Fig. 17 is a cross-sectional view along line XVII-XVII in Fig. 15;

Fig. 18 is a cross-sectional view along line XVIII-XVIII in Fig. 15;

Fig. 19 is a plane plan view of a circular land pre-pit 8 in same;

Fig. 20 is a plane plan view of a meandering land pre-pit 8 in same;

Fig. 21 is a graph showing the relation between the RF signal fluctuation amount and RF readout errors, for circular land pre-pits 8 in same;

Fig. 22 is a graph showing the relation between the RF signal fluctuation amount and RF readout errors, for meandering land pre-pits 8 in same;

Fig. 23 is a graph of the RF signals (3T pit signals) and land pre-pit signals when the unrecorded optical depth is approximately  $\lambda/5.8$  in same; and,

Fig. 24 is a graph of the RF signals (3T pit signals) and land pre-pit signals when the unrecorded optical depth is approximately  $\lambda/6.2$  in same.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 1 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view showing in enlargement the optical information recording media 20 and in particular a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 21 and a portion of a circular spot 9S of laser light 9 irradiating same; the Gaussian energy distribution of the circular spot 9S of laser light 9 is also shown.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 3 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view illustrating the state of irradiation with laser light 9 (circular spot 9S) of a land pre-pit 21. When directing the circular spot 9S of the laser light 9 onto a land pre-pit 21 to obtain a signal from the land pre-pit 21, diffraction of the laser light 9 by the land pre-pit 21 results in a clear difference above and below the range of the circular spot 9S (in the spot upper range 9A and spot lower range 9B), enhancing the detection accuracy, so that even if the land pre-pit 21 is in proximity to a recorded pit 10, the AR of the land pre-pit signal is maintained at 15% or higher and readout errors are avoided, while the RF signal fluctuation amount can be held to less than 1%.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

For example, Fig. 4 is an enlarged ~~plane~~ plan view showing another example of a land pre-pit (land pre-pit 30); this land pre-pit 30 protrudes in an arc shape in the outward radial direction of the optical information recording media 20, and the inside edge portions 22 and most

prominently protruding inside edge portion 26 of the inside protruding portion 23, as well as the outside edge portions 24 and most prominently protruding outside edge portion 27 of the outside protruding portion 25, are positioned within the range of the circular spot 9S.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 5 is an enlarged plane plan view showing still another example of a land pre-pit (land pre-pit 31); this land pre-pit 31 protrudes in a trapezoidal shape in the outward radial direction of the optical information recording media 20, and the inside edge portions 22 and most prominently protruding inside edge portion 26 of the inside protruding portion 23, as well as the outside edge portions 24 and most prominently protruding outside edge portion 27 of the outside protruding portion 25, are positioned within the range of the circular spot 9S.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 6 is an enlarged plane plan view showing in enlargement the optical information recording media 40, and in particular a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 21 and a portion of a circular spot 9S of laser light 9 irradiating the media.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 7 is an enlarged plane plan view for a case in which a recorded pit 10 overlaps with a portion of a conventional meandering land pre-pit 8, and Fig. 8 is an enlarged plane plan view for a case in which a recorded pit 10 overlaps with a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 8 of this invention, showing in particular the state in which the laser light 9 is slightly shifted to the disc radial-direction center side (detracking).

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 32, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 9 is an enlarged plane plan view showing in enlargement the optical information

recording media 50, and in particular a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 21 and a portion of a circular spot 9S of laser light 9 irradiating this pre-pit.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 34, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Fig. 10 is an enlarged plane plan view of a portion of a meandering land pre-pit 8 in the optical information recording media 60. Land pre-pits 8 are formed in circular arc shapes or elliptical arc shapes, similarly to those of the prior art shown in Fig. 20, in portions of the pregroove 6 protruding in an arc shape on the outside circumference side in the radial direction of the optical information recording media 60.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

That is, a land pre-pit 8 is delineated by the inside arc-shape portion 62 extending in an arc shape from the pair of inside arc edge portions 61 on the left and right in the figure and by the outside arc-shape portion 64 extending in an arc shape from the outside arc-shape edge portions 63, and is formed protruding in a circular elliptical arc shape on the outside circumference side in the radial direction of the optical information recording media 60.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

The inside protrusion length in the radial direction on the arc inner side of a land pre-pit 8 (the distance from the additional line connecting the inside arc shape edge portions 61 on both sides to the additional line tangent to the inside arc-shape portion 62 at the most prominently protruding portion 65 of the circular elliptical arc of the inside arc-shape portion 62) is  $R_{in}$ .

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

The outside protrusion length in the radial direction on the arc outer side of a land pre-pit 8 (the distance from the additional line connecting the outside arc shape edge portions 63 on both

sides to the additional line tangent to the outside arc-shape portion 64 at the most prominently protruding portion 66 of the ~~circular~~ elliptical arc of the outside arc-shape portion 64) is  $R_{out}$ .